



**Department of
Transportation**

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

MARIE THERESE DOMINGUEZ
Commissioner

LANCE MacMILLAN, P.E.
Regional Director

April 20, 2022

Robert "Scott" Birney
Department of Public Works Superintendent
Village of Goshen
276 Main Street
Goshen, NY 10924

Dear Mr. Birney,

This letter is in response to your March 28, 2022, telephone call asking for information on the type of excavation work the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) did around the intersection of Route 17A and Dikeman Drive.

The NYSDOT was contacted by Joe Battaglia in early May 2021 to say that water was backing up on his property at #2 Dikeman Drive. The site visit on May 11, 2021, showed that the inlet and outlet of the cross culvert under Route 17A at the Dikeman Drive intersection had become silted in. A crew was sent on May 25, 2021, to open the inlet and outlet of the culvert using an excavator. The NYSDOT has very limited right of way along Route 17A, so the excavation was limited to only about ten feet from the ends of the pipe.

The property owner was on site, when the NYSDOT crew was opening the ends of the cross culvert. The property owner wanted us to ditch farther at the outlet end, but we said no because we would be off our right of way.

The residency received a call on June 11, 2021, from the Village of Goshen asking if we allowed anyone to work in the right of way of Route 17A by Dikeman Drive to excavate a drainage channel. We told the Village no, but we went out in the field to investigate. We found that someone had excavated from the outlet of the Route 17A culvert to the inlet of a culvert that goes under Coates Drive. They then continued digging a trench from the outlet of the Coates Drive culvert along Route 17A for approximately 150 linear feet. We could not determine who did this work, but the NYSDOT did not perform this excavation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard M. Gaupman".

Richard Gaupman, RE
Western Orange County
Cc: files